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NOTES ON GEOGRAPHIC DISTRIBUTION

Distribution extension of *Uracentron flaviceps* (Guichenot, 1855) (Reptilia: Squamata): Second record for the state of Acre, Brazil

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ABSTRACT: A female specimen of *Uracentron flaviceps* (Guichenot, 1855) was found during routine work in the Extractive Reserve Chico Mendes in the municipality of Epitaciolândia, state of Acre, Brazil. This is the second record of the species for the state, extending the known distribution of the species by 570 km.

Uracentron flaviceps (Guichenot, 1855), a lizard species of the family Tropiduridae, is distributed throughout the western part of the Brazilian Amazon, Colombia, Ecuador and Peru (Greene 1977; Vitt and Zani 1996). In Brazil the species has been recorded in the states of Amazonas, Rondônia and for the western extreme of the state of Acre, where a single record exists (Avila-Pires 1995; Avila-Pires *et al.* 2009).

This species is largely restricted to lowland tropical forests, occurring on horizontal limbs high in tropical forest trees (Vitt and Zani 1996). The species has been described to prefer trees with thick irregular bark (Fugler 1986) where it lives and shelters in cavities, in the upper part of the tree trunk (Vitt and Zani 1996). It also uses those cavities for egg-laying, with records of up to 14 eggs in a single nest (Dixon and Soini 1986). *Uracentron flaviceps* is thought to feed mainly on ants, although it occasionally feeds on other insects (Greene 1977; Vitt and Zani 1996).

During a visit to the Extractive Reserve Chico Mendes, in the municipality of Epitaciolândia, state of Acre, a female specimen of *Uracentron flaviceps* (Figure 1) was found lying on a fallen log on the outer edge of a forested area (10°50'17" S, 68°33'28" W). The specimen, with an overall length of 130 mm, was collected (Permit ICMBIO/SISBIO-25261-1.) and deposited in the Herpetological Laboratory of the Universidade Federal do Acre, Campus Floresta, in Cruzeiro do Sul, Acre, Brazil (Voucher UFACF 4001).

In all the herpetological collections reviewed, which included the collection of the Federal University of Acre, Campus Floresta in Cruzeiro do Sul, there was only one previous record of this species for the state of Acre, in the municipality of Cruzeiro do Sul (Avila-Pires 1995). With this new record the species distribution is extended approximately 570 kilometers southeast from Cruzeiro do Sul.

This record is especially valuable given the arboreal habits and cryptic nature of *Uracentron flaviceps,* which place this species amongst the hardest lizards to study in the Amazon region, and make even the most basic ecological data hard to obtain (Harvey and Gutberlet Jr 1998; Vitt and Zani 1996). Systematic surveys should be undertaken in order to improve our understanding of the distribution of this species and other herpetofauna of the state of Acre, Brazil.

FIGURE 1. *Uracentron flaviceps* recorded at the Reserva Extrativista Chico Mendes, in the municipality of Epitaciolândia, state of Acre, Brazil. Photo by Marco Antonio de Freitas.

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